

REMARKS

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's thorough examination of the application and the indication that claims 6 and 7 are in a condition for allowance. Applicants request reconsideration of the subject application based on the following remarks.

It is submitted that the above amendments may be properly entered at this time, i.e., after final rejection, pursuant to 37 CFR §1.116, because the amendments do not require a new search or raise any new issues, and they reduce issues for appeal. Indeed, it is respectfully submitted that the within amendments place the application in condition for allowance. Thus, entry of the amendments at this time is earnestly solicited.

Claims 6, 7, and 10-13 are pending in the application. Claims 10-12 have been amended and claims 8 and 9 have been cancelled by the instant amendment. Claims 10 and 11 have been amended to depend from claims 6 and 7. Claim 12, as amended, is an independent claim incorporating the language of claim 6. Support for the amendments to the claims can be found throughout the specification. Applicants reserve the right to pursue the cancelled subject matter in one or more continuation applications. No new matter has been introduced by the instant amendments.

Claims 8-13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Horino (U.S. Patent 5,830,878).

Claims 8 and 9 have been cancelled without prejudice.

Claims 10 and 11, as amended, depend from claims 6 and 7, which are indicated as being in a condition for allowance. Claim 12, as rewritten in independent format, incorporates the language of allowed claim 6 and is therefore also in a condition for allowance. Thus, claims 10-13, as amended, are not obvious over the teaching of Horino.

Claims 8-13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Oda (U.S. Patent 5,725,874).

Claims 8 and 9 have been cancelled without prejudice.

Claims 10 and 11, as amended, depend from claims 6 and 7, which are indicated as being in a condition for allowance. Claim 12, as rewritten in independent format, incorporates the language of allowed claim 6 and is therefore also in a condition for allowance. Thus, claims 10-13, as amended, are not obvious over the teaching of Oda.

Claims 11-13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 11, as originally presented provided proportions of three ingredients in the adhesive preparation of claim 6. That is, claim 11 provided the weight percent content of the base resin, the softener, and the adhesive resin in the adhesive preparation. Claim 11, as amended, more clearly points out that each of the base resin, the softener, and the adhesive resin are present in the specified quantities.

Claim 12 has been rewritten in independent format to provide an adhesive preparation consisting essentially of the ingredients of the preparation of claim 6 and an antioxidant. Claim 13 appears to have been rejected because it depends from claim 12 such that the amendments to claim 12 also overcome the rejection of claim 13.

Claims 11-13, as amended, are fully compliant with the requirements of §112, including the definiteness requirements of §112 second paragraph.

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If for any reason a fee is required, additional extension of time is required, a fee paid is inadequate or credit is owed for any excess fee paid, you are hereby authorized and requested to charge Deposit Account No. **04-1105**.

Should the Examiner wish to discuss any of the amendments and/or remarks made herein, the undersigned agent would appreciate the opportunity to do so.

In view of the above amendment, applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

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Respectfully submitted,

By 

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